

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Milagros Lostaunado, I am 25 años. I am a resident of Hartford. I'm a member of *Hartford Deportation Defense*. I support **HB 6616: An Act Relating to the Expansion of HUSKY Health Benefits for Persons Ineligible Due to Immigration Status.**

I just gave birth to my 2 month old baby and it is very difficult not to have health insurance. HUSKY insurance covered my pregnancy, but did not cover the postpartum period. When I was pregnant, I tested positive for tuberculosis. I still have to continue treatment for TB. The doctors keep testing me and want to take my blood test. It's hard to go to follow-up appointments because I can't afford the bills and I'm afraid that my health is in danger with TB if I don't get the right treatment at the right time. I have very high bills from *Hartford Hospital Women's Ambulatory Health Services*.

If I had health insurance I would feel better. It's bad to have TB and not have access to medical care, and not know if I can get the right treatment. If I had health insurance I could take better care of myself and also go to the dentist. I haven't been to the dentist because I can't afford it.

**I support HB6616** and hope the committee will vote in favor of continuing to expand HUSKY health insurance for our immigrant communities. Expanding to age 26 is a great step but we must continue to move forward until all ages have access.

Thanks for your time,  
*Milagros Lostaunado*